



# Creditor protection

PROTECT YOUR SAVINGS  
FROM SEIZURE



# Looking for an effective way to protect your savings from creditors?

Have we got an offer for you!

A savings contract **issued by a life insurance company** includes a Beneficiary designation that has **clear benefits** over those offered by banks. One of those benefits is that you can **protect your investment from seizure**.



# Who can benefit from creditor protection?

Every holder of a savings contract issued by a life insurance company<sup>1</sup> may be eligible for **creditor protection**. This protection is especially useful if you're **more at risk of having your savings seized in the event of a bankruptcy or lawsuit**. For example:

- Business owners
- Self-employed workers
- Doctors, lawyers or notaries

## Events that could lead to financial difficulty:

- Financial loss by your business
- Loss of a major client
- Non-payment by a client
- Civil lawsuit
- Bankruptcy of a business partner
- Conflict with a business partner
- Employee fraud
- Substantial increase in your company's fixed costs
- Critical illness
- Loss of employment



<sup>1</sup> Desjardins Financial Security Life Assurance Company savings products are offered through annuity contracts.



# It comes down to Beneficiary designation

The person you choose as Beneficiary is very important so that your contract is exempt from seizure.<sup>2</sup> This protection can be provided for the following types of designated Beneficiaries:

Type of designated Beneficiary in an annuity contract established by an insurer	During the Annuitant's lifetime
<p>Revocable Beneficiary*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spouse or common-law partner (common-law partner is excluded in some Canadian jurisdictions)</li><li>• Parent (and grandparent in Quebec only)</li><li>• Child and grandchild</li></ul>	Exempt from seizure
Any irrevocable Beneficiary	Exempt from seizure

\* The Annuitant (insured life) may be a different person from the contract owner in the case of a non-registered contract. In Quebec, the relationship must be between the Beneficiary and the contract owner. In the rest of Canada, the relationship must be between the Beneficiary and the Annuitant.



**Rules for exemption from seizure can be complex and may vary by province. We recommend consulting a legal expert (lawyer or notary) for an analysis of your specific situation.**

WHEN YOU DESIGNATE A BENEFICIARY IN ONE OF OUR SAVINGS CONTRACTS, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF **CREDITOR PROTECTION**. IT'S A SIMPLE WAY TO AVOID UNPLEASANT SURPRISES!

<sup>2</sup> If the designated Beneficiary is not one of the people in the table and not designated as irrevocable, your contract may still be exempt from seizure in the event of bankruptcy, depending on your situation, the seizing creditor and certain conditions.



## What is a Savings contract?

Savings contracts issued by Desjardins Insurance include guaranteed investment funds, term investments and annuities.

## What is a Beneficiary?

The Beneficiary is the person named to receive the death benefit according to the provisions of your contract upon the death of the Annuitant. There are 2 types of Beneficiaries: revocable and irrevocable. When you name a revocable Beneficiary, you can change the Beneficiary at any time by notifying the insurer. When you name an irrevocable Beneficiary, you must almost always obtain that person's consent to make changes to the contract or carry out any transactions.

## What is an Annuitant?

The Annuitant is the person whose death results in the payment of the death benefit. For a registered contract, the Annuitant is always the contract owner.



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